1974, reports on attempts to raise such a probe as is postulated by Mr. Lunan. An 18-foot satellite-tracking antenna was donated by EMI Electronics, the firm for which Mr. Lunan works, and two of his associates, Anthony Lawton and Sidney Newton, listened for the probe on frequencies and in a manner that should have raised it if Mr. Lunan's theory is correct. They did receive a few delayed echoes, but all were completely random and "clearly due to natural effects". Mr. Lawton, in a paper read to the International Astronautical Congress at Amsterdam, stated that "We would now definitely say that no records to date support the hypothesis that LDE's (the echoes) emanate from an artifact."

VII. BIOLOGY

ALAS, POOR JACKO

by John Green & Sabina W. Sanderson

One of the most famous ABSMal reports concerns 'Jacko', a young Sasquatch-type ABSM stated to have been captured near Yale, British Columbia, on July 3, 1884. The full report is printed in Ivan T. Sanderson's book Abominable Snowmen: Legend Come to Life (pp. 25-26) but we here reprint only portions of the article from The Daily British Colonist, this for benefit of those not familiar with the story.

"Yale, B.C., July 3, 1884—In the immediate vicinity of No. 4 tunnel, situated some 20 miles above this village, are bluffs of rock which have hitherto been unsurmountable, but on Monday morning last were successfully scaled by Mr. Onderdonk's employees on the regular train from Lytton. Assisted by Mr. Costerton, the British Columbia Express Company's messenger, a number of gentlemen from Lytton and points east of that place, after considerable trouble and perilous climbing captured a creature who may truly be called half man and half beast. 'Jacko', as the creature has been called by his capturers, is something of the gorilla type standing about 4 feet 7 inches in height and weighing 127 pounds. He has long, black, strong hair and resembles a human being with one exception, his entire body, excepting his hands (or paws) and feet are covered with glossy hair about one inch long. His fore arm is much longer than a man's fore arm, and he possesses extraordinary strength, as he will take hold of a stick and break it by wrenching or twisting it, which no man living could break in the same way. Since his capture he is very reticent, only occasionally uttering a noise which is half bark and half growl. He is, however, becoming daily more attached to his keeper, Mr. George Telbury, of this place, who proposes shortly starting for London, England, to exhibit him. His favorite food so far is berries, and he drinks fresh milk with evident relish. By advice of Dr. Hannington, raw meats have been withheld from Jacko, as the doctor thinks it would have a tendency to make him savage....

[Jacko was captured by being trapped on a ledge, whereupon one of the men climbed up above him and dropped a rock on his head, "rendering poor Jacko incapable of resistance for a time at least". He was then lowered by rope to the ground.]

"The question naturally arises, how came the creature where it was first seen by Mr. Austin? [near the track, apparently asleep] From bruises about its head and body, and apparent soreness since its capture, it is supposed that Jacko ventured too near the edge of the bluff, slipped, fell and lay where found until the sound of the rushing train aroused him. Mr. Thomas White, and Mr. Gouin, C.B.E., as well as Mr. Major, who kept a small store about half a mile west of the tunnel during the past 2 years, have mentioned having seen a curious creature at different points between Camps 13 and 17, but no attention was paid to their remarks as people came to the conclusion that they had either seen a bear or stray Indian dog. Who can unravel the mystery that now surrounds Jacko? Does he belong to a species hitherto unknown in this part of the continent or is he really what the train men first thought he was, a crazy Indian?"

This newspaper account was originally pointed out to John Green and Rene Dahinden by a historian. It is an apparently factual report, but John Green is not one to sit polishing his fingernails on his lapel and has continued to search for more information. His report follows:

On the sad side, I have to report the demise of Jacko, the Sasquatch reported caught at Yale in 1884. The historian who originally told Rene Dahinden and me about the article said that there were no newspapers in existence from New Westminster, B.C. at that time, all having been destroyed in a fire. This turns out to be untrue. The B.C. Archives have no copies, but the University of B.C. has microfilm of not one but two newspapers, the British Columbian (now called, oddly, just the Columbian, whereas it is published on the very bank of the Fraser, 300 miles from the Columbia) and the Mainland Guardian. The Columbian reprinted the original story from the Victoria Colonist. Then on July 9 (the article is dated the 7th) the Guardian has a short story from Yale:

"THE 'WHAT IS IT'
Is the subject of conversation in town, this evening. How the story originated, and by whom, is hard for one to conjecture. Absurdity is written on the face of it. The fact of the matter is, that no such animal was caught, and how the 'Colonist' was duped in such a manner, and by such a story, is strange, and stranger still, when the 'Columbian' reproduced it in that paper. The 'train' of circumstances connected with

the discovery of 'Jacko' and the disposal of same was, and still is, a mystery.

REX.

Yale, B.C., July 7, 1884"

REX was a correspondent of the Guardian who was travelling to the Interior and happened to be in Yale at this time. It is interesting to note that neither the Colonist nor the Columbian ever disputed his statements. On the other hand, the British Columbian on July 11 ran a story which the Guardian did not have:

"THE WILD MAN--Last Tuesday it was reported that the wild man, said to have been captured at Yale, had been sent to this city and might be seen at the gaol [American 'jail']. A rush of citizens instantly took place, and it is reported that not fewer than 200 impatiently begged admission into the skookum house. The only wild man visible was Mr. Murphy, governor of the gaol, who completely exhausted his patience answering enquiries from the sold (sic) visitors."

That was all. I finally got a look at the microfilm of the Yale-Kamloops paper for 1884, and found that the publisher was ill at the time of the Jacko story, having already published his last issue from Yale. He did not get back in operation at Kamloops for several months, and his first few issues do not mention Jacko. In fact there was very little Yale news in the paper and I frankly did not search further here.

All this is not 100 percent conclusive perhaps, but I would say 99 percent. At least I'm glad I dug this out myself instead of having it thrown at me by some hostile academic. There probably is no way to overhaul the story now, and various authors will borrow it from one another and reprint it as gospel, but at at least the facts as we now know them are on record here.

Thus John Green's report. There are some loose ends of varying importance. One of Ivan Sanderson's statements concerns a reporter who in 1946 "interviewed an old gentleman in Lytton, B.C. who remembered having seen it". John Green tells me that

"The reporter who interviewed the old gentleman at Lytton would probably be me, except that the date would be wrong, as it would have been about 1958. Also the old gentleman didn't say he saw the thing, he (a half-breed who lived on the reservation) said he remembered hearing that the white people had the thing, but did not see it. That is as close as I can get anyway."

A point should be made here. In checking another item (mentioned below) that John Green dug up, I found that the person who compiled notes for Ivan's use in writing Abominable Snowmen--the handwriting is not familiar to me-- was not always as precise as he should have been, particularly with regard to dates, and especially when several dates were listed. I think therefore that this alleged report should be ignored.

A very odd item is the reference in the original article to Mr. Gouin, C.B.E. There is no question that the article was published in 1884, but C.B.E. stands for Commander of the Most Excellent Order of The British Empire, which was not established until 1917! I have been unable to find any other meaning for C.B.E. If any of our members can find one, please let us know.

This still leaves the basic question asked by REX: where did the story come from? Despite its precision, naming names and giving a detailed description of Jacko, etc., it seems (unhappily) that it is a fabrication, though possibly based on the remarks made by those who had seen a "curious creature at different points between Camps 13 and 17,...."

The other "item" referred to above concerns A. C. Anderson, an early explorer who is alleged to have reported Sasquatches in 1846. The date is incorrectly given as 1864 in Ivan Sanderson's book, having been picked up by the unidentified hand from an article by Stephen Franklin in Weekend Magazine (4 April 1959). This is almost undoubtedly a simple 'typo', but the story is something else. Franklin quotes from what he describes as an "official letter" (but gives no source) as follows: "...and we were met by a wild giant of the Mountains, who bombarded us with rocks." John Green provides the following information.

The A.C. Anderson report has been for many years the oldest Sasquatch report, although recently eclipsed. Anderson was a Hudson Bay Co. trader who made at least two exploratory trips to try to find a fur brigade route from the interior to the coast to replace the Columbia River route in case (as happened) that became U.S. territory. One trip took him down the Lillooet, Harrison river and lake system and somewhere the story began that on that trip the Sasquatch threw rocks at his party. Anderson's original handwritten report is in the B.C. Archives and it makes no mention of such an incident, nor does the archivist know of any other possible source for the story. Oddly enough, he does mention the Indians showing him a huge footprint, a natural feature in stone about (as I recall) three feet across. Conceivably it might have been a dinosaur print, although none are known in that part of B.C. In any event I have no idea where it might be, but the fact that he mentions it suggests that he certainly would not have failed to mention huge hairy men had he seen any.

We wrote to Stephen Franklin two months ago to ask his source for the 'quotation', but he has not replied.

PENNSYLVANIA ABSMERY: A REPORT

by Robert E. Jones

In September 1974 after almost a year of planning and preparation, SITU launched its first 'official' ABSM "expedition". The venture took a group of us to western Pennsylvania in an attempt to gather more data on what we may call the Eastern species of